

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-14 EUR-25

DRC-01 /134 W

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R 120805Z AUG 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2230

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN IN TIENTSIN

REF: PEKING 292

1. THE PUBLIC PHASE OF THE POSTER CAMPAIGN IN TIENTSIN APPEARS TO HAVE ENDED SOME TIME AGO. DURING AN AUGUST 8-9 VISIT TO THE TIENTSIN-HSINKANG AREA, A USLO OFFICER NOTED THAT THE LARGE NUMBER OF ANTI-LIN, ANTI-CONFUCIUS POSTERS SEEN BY EARLIER OBSERVERS (REFTEL), HAD BEEN REMOVED. THOSE REMAINING WERE IN TATTERS. MORE NUMEROUS, BUT EQUALLY TORN AND ILLEGIBLE, WERE POSTERS SENDING OFF YOUTH TO THE COUNTRYSIDE. THE OFFICER SAW ONLY TWO INTACT POSTERS (ONE 10 TO 15 SHEETS LONG) ON SEPARATE FACTORY WALLS, BUT THEY WERE NOT BEING READ. IN GENERAL, CONDITIONS IN THE CITY APPEARED NORMAL AND THERE WAS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF OPEN POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

2. WITHIN TWO UNITS VISITED BY THE OFFICER CAMPAIGN POSTERS WERE STILL UP BUT THE SLOGANS AND NATURE OF THE DISPLAYS GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE CAMPAIGN HAD BECOME A PRO FORMA EXERCISE. OFFICES OF THE FOREIGN TRADE TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION IN

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HSINKANG WERE COVERED WITH POSTERS, BUT SEVERAL WERE TORN AND

ALL SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN UP FOR A LONG TIME. OF GREATEST INTEREST WAS A SERIES OF BEAUTIFULLY DONE COLOR PANELS TACKED TO A BULLETIN BOARD WHICH RAN ALONG ONE HALL. ON EACH PANEL WAS A SERIOUS COLOR PENCIL DRAWING OF A DIFFERENCE CONFUCIAN SAGE ACCOMPANIED BY A LONG AND NEATLY LETTERED TEXT. THE OVERALL EFFECT WAS THAT OF A CLASSROOM BULLETIN BOARD DISPLAY WHICH HAD BEEN PUT UP TO LAST.

3. AT THE AUTOMOBILE INSPECTION STATION IN TIENTSIN, THE OFFICER SAW (BUT COULD NOT GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO READ) ANOTHER ARTISTICALLY DONE CAMPAIGN DISPLAY ON A LARGE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE CENTER OF THE COMPOUND. HERE ALSO THE LONG AND NEATLY LETTERED TEXT WAS DONE ON COLORED PAPER IN COMPLEMENTARY PASTELS. THE BULLETIN BOARD WAS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE TATTERED REMAINS OF EARLIER AND LESS CAREFULLY DONE "TA TZU PAO" STILL CLINGING TO A WALL ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COMPOUND.
BRUCE

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Message Attributes

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